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16. (Amended) A method of identifying an agent effective in preventing amyloidosis comprising administering a test agent to a young transgenic animal carrying an IL-6 gene under the control of a promoter or enhancer, and detecting development of amyloid deposits by radiographic imaging of the transgenic animal, wherein an absence of amyloid deposits indicates that the test agent is effective in preventing amyloidosis.

17. (Amended) A method of identifying an agent effective in preventing amyloidosis comprising administering a test agent and AEF to a young transgenic animal carrying an IL-6 gene under the control of a promoter or enhancer, and detecting development of amyloid deposits by radiographic imaging of the transgenic animal, wherein an absence of amyloid deposits indicates that the test agent is effective in preventing amyloidosis.

18. (Amended) The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein the transgenic animal is a mouse.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein radiographic imaging is performed via MRI, CT, or SPECT scan.

20. (Amended) A method of identifying an agent effective in treating amyloidosis comprising administering a test agent to a transgenic animal carrying an IL-6 gene under the control of a promoter or enhancer and having amyloid deposits in its body, detecting amyloid deposits by radiographic imaging of the transgenic animal, wherein a decrease or a constant level of amyloid deposits in the transgenic animal as compared to a control animal indicates that the test agent is effective in treating amyloidosis.

21. (Amended) A method of identifying an agent effective in treating amyloidosis comprising administering AEF to a young transgenic animal carrying an IL-6 gene under the control of a promoter or enhancer, administering a test agent after development of amyloidosis, and detecting development of amyloid deposits by radiographic imaging of the transgenic

animal, wherein a decrease or constant level of amyloid deposits in the transgenic animal as compared to a control animal indicates that the test agent is effective in treating amyloidosis.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 20 or 21, wherein the transgenic animal is a mouse.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 20 or 21, wherein radiographic imaging is performed via MRI, CT, or SPECT scan

24. (Amended) The method of any one of claims 16, 17, 20, or 21, wherein the IL-6 gene is a human IL-6 gene.

25. (Amended) The method of any one of claims 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, or 21, wherein the promoter is a metallothionein-I promoter.

26. (Amended) The method of any one of claims 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, or 21, wherein the enhancer is an Eμ enhancer.

27. (Amended) A method of identifying an agent that inhibits fibrillogenesis of a polypeptide comprising:

a) incubating a test agent with a polypeptide known to form fibrils and ThT; and

b) measuring the fluorescence intensity as a function of time to determine whether the agent inhibits fibrillogenesis of the polypeptide.

28. (Amended) A method of determining whether a compound is fibrillogenic comprising:

a) incubating the compound with ThT; and

b) measuring fluorescence intensity as a function of time of to determine whether the compound is fibrillogenic.

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29. A method of identifying the chemical nature of proteins in amyloid deposits comprising:

a) extracting the proteins from ultra-thin sections of formalin fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue biopsy specimens;

b) isolating the proteins; and

c) determining the amino acid sequence of each of the proteins.

30. (Amended) The method of any one of claims 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, or 21, wherein the transgenic animal is six week old.

31. (Amended) The method of any one of claims 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, or 21, wherein the amyloidosis is AA amyloidosis.

REMARKS

The amendment above renumbers claims 17-32 as claims 16-31 since claim 16 was missing in the original set of claims. The amendment above also corrects the dependencies of the claims after the renumbering of original claims 17-32. Support for new claims 16-31 can be found in original claims 17-32. This amendment does not introduce prohibited new matter.

In response to the restriction requirement in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-3. Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action groups claim 28 (new claim 27) with both the Inventions of Group III and Group IV. It appears that this may be an inadvertent error and that claim 29 (new claim 28) should be grouped with the Invention of Group IV, since claim 29 (new claim 28) is drawn to a method of determining a compound that is fibrillogenic comprising incubating a compound with ThT. Applicants request that claim 29 (new claim 28) be grouped with the Invention of Group IV.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time